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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/669,897	09/27/2000	Jun Ibuki	826.1628/JDH	4426

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EXAMINER

RIMELL, SAMUEL G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2175

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/669,897	<b>Applicant(s)</b> IBUKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Sam Rimell	<b>Art Unit</b> 2175	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

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**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

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The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 2-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2: The phrase "the number of occurrences" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 3: The phrase "the degrees of reliability of individual data" lacks antecedent basis.

Note that the claim makes no previous reference to assigning reliability degrees to individual data, only to "fact data".

Claim 6: The phrase "etc." is indefinite.

Claim 9: The phrases "the fact data unifying apparatus", "said data extracting unit", and "said inconsistency detecting unit" each lack antecedent basis.

Claim 10: It is not clear what distinction exists between the data aggregating unit and the data integrating unit, since "aggregating" and "integrating" can be the very same function. The phrase "integrating similar data into one" indefinite since it is not clear what the exact result of the integrating is. Is the result one table? Is it one database? Is the result one row or one column of data?

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an

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international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Paik et al. (U.S. Patent 6,148,312).

Claim 1: Reference is made to FIG. 4. Step (402) involves the extraction and examination of text (contents of articles) and text fact data (metadata). The metadata has at least three parts: (1) target object (article content in the metadata—col. 6, line 43): (2) an attribute name (the title of the article in the metadata—col. 6, line 42: and (3) an attribute value (versions of the article which are archived—col. 3, lines 15-16).

As seen in FIG. 4 step (406) , the metadata can be aggregated by creating new metadata when it does not exist. The three types of metadata described above aggregated together for each article.

As seen in FIG. 4 step (408), the system detects an inconsistent data group (metadata that lacks an associated article of information). The system then erases the erroneous metadata and determines the remaining data to be correct by proceeding to the “Return” step. The Delete Metadata” step aids in unifying the correct metadata with the correct article.

Claim 2: Step (402) is the data extraction unit. Metadata extracted includes target object (article content); attribute name (title of article) and attribute value (versions of article which have been archived). Step (406) is the data aggregating unit since it creates new metadata when it does exist and aggregates the data with each article. Step (408) is the inconsistency detecting unit which detects metadata that is not associated with an article. The correctness determining unit is the process step “Return” since only correct metadata associated with correct articles are determined to exist at this step. The data integrating unit is the “Delete Metadata” step since this

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step aids in integrating only the correct metadata with the correct articles by deleting metadata lacking any association with an article.

Claim 11: See remarks for claim 1.

Claims 3-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sam Rimell at telephone number (703) 306-5626.



Sam Rimell  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2175

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